

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/736,308

Examiner

Thomas A. Morrison

Applicant(s)

HOPPER, CRAIG

Art Unit

3653

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to applicant's 10/23/2006 amendment.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 18, 19 and 21.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material

5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____


PATRICK MACKEY
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3600

DETAILED ACTION

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. James R. McDaniel (Reg. No. 34,481) on 1/5/07.

IN THE CLAIMS:

In claim 18, line 6 after "backstop", -- by continuously contacting an auxiliary idler roller with an auxiliary drive roller to create said auxiliary roller nip; and causing said auxiliary drive roller to rotate in a first direction -- has been inserted.

In claim 18, line 10 after "output nip", -- by causing said auxiliary drive roller to rotate in a second direction; and rotating a media output nip idler roller towards a media output nip drive roller in order to create said media output nip -- has been inserted.

In claim 18, lines 11-12, "continuously contacting an auxiliary idler roller with an auxiliary drive roller to create said auxiliary roller nip;" has been deleted.

In claim 18, line 13, "causing said auxiliary drive roller to rotate in a first direction;" has been deleted.

In claim 18, line 14, "causing said auxiliary drive roller to rotate in a second direction;" has been deleted.

Art Unit: 3653

In claim 18, lines 15-16, "rotating a media output nip idler roller towards a media output nip drive roller in order to create said media output nip;" has been deleted.

In claim 18, lines 17-19, "rotating said media output nip idler roller away from said media output nip drive roller after said sheet of media is transferred to said image producing device in order to place an image upon the other side of the sheet of media; and" has been deleted.

In claim 18, line 21, after "media", -- ; and rotating said media output nip idler roller away from said media output nip drive roller after said sheet of media is transferred to said image producing device in order to place an image upon the other side of the sheet of media -- has been inserted.

In claim 21, line 1 after "Claim", "20" has been replaced with -- 18 --.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Independent claim 18 of applicant's 10/23/2006 amendment, and as modified by the examiner's amendment, is patentable over the prior art of record because the teachings of the references taken as a whole do not show or render obvious the combination of method steps including (1) transferring the sheet by the auxiliary roller nip towards a backstop by continuously contacting an auxiliary idler roller with an auxiliary drive roller to create the auxiliary roller nip; and causing the auxiliary drive roller to rotate in a first direction; (2) interacting between an edge of the sheet and the backstop such that substantially any further forward motion of the sheet is prohibited; (3) creating a slippage between the sheet and the auxiliary roller nip; (4) transferring the sheet by the auxiliary roller nip towards a media output nip by causing the auxiliary drive roller to rotate in a second direction; and rotating a media output nip idler roller towards a media output nip drive roller in order to create the media output nip; and (5) rotating the media output nip idler roller away from the media output nip drive roller after the sheet of media is transferred to the image producing device in order to place an image upon the other side of the sheet of media.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thomas A. Morrison whose telephone number is (571) 272-7221. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F, 8am - 5pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Patrick Mackey can be reached on (571) 272-6916. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

01/05/2007


PATRICK MACKEY
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3600